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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT (Month of April, 1980)

The total number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during April registered one of the largest monthly increases in the last twelve months. In a report released today, the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, which conducts the monthly survey, said the April total was 496, up seventeen land crews and two marine vessels since March. The April total indicates the current level of seismic exploration activity is the highest since early 1958, more than twenty-two years ago.

The April total (496) represents an increase of 4% over last month, a 38% increase over April, 1979, a 45% increase over April, 1978, a 70% increase over April, 1977, a 108% increase over April, 1976, and a gain of 75% over the same month in 1975.

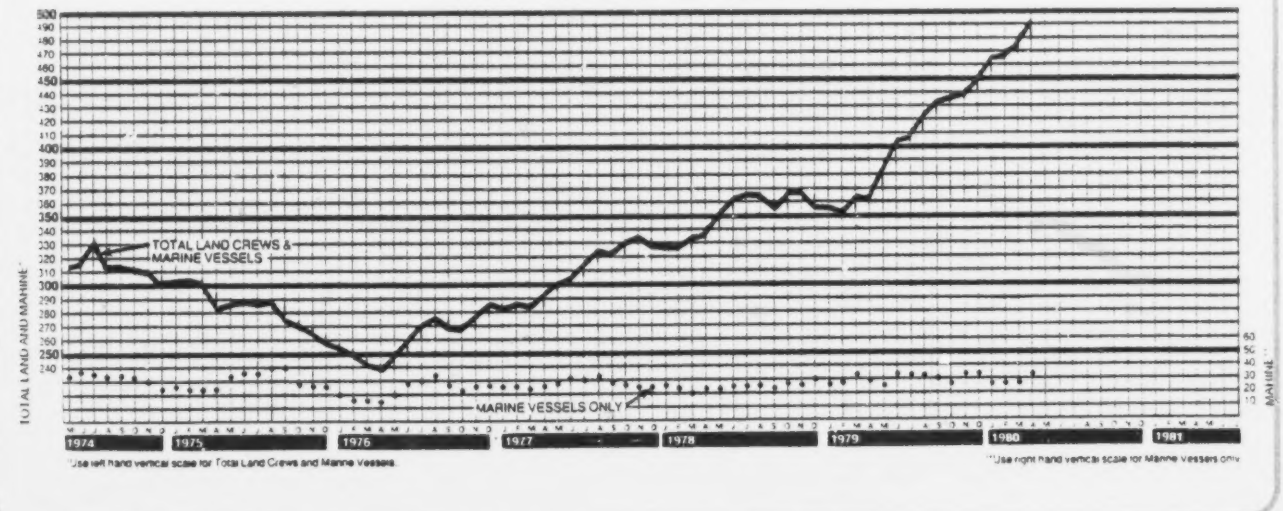
During April, seven contractors were operating nine of their 426 land crews and none of their twenty-five marine vessels on a speculative basis.

TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month 496	Last Month 477	Apr. '79 360	Apr. '78 342	Apr. '77 292	Apr. '76 238	Apr. '75 283

	LAND CREWS							MARINE VESSELS						
	This Month	Last Month	Apr. '79	Apr. '78	Apr. '77	Apr. '76	Apr. '75	This Month	Last Month	Apr. '79	Apr. '78	Apr. '77	Apr. '76	Apr. '75
70 Contr's:	426	409	293	285	232	183	220	25	23	22	16	21	13	18
10 Oil Co's:	39	39	37	36	34	38	40	6	6	7	5	5	4	5
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	--	--	--	0	0	1	0	--	--	--
Totals:	465	448	330	321	266	221	260	31	29	30	21	26	17	23

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



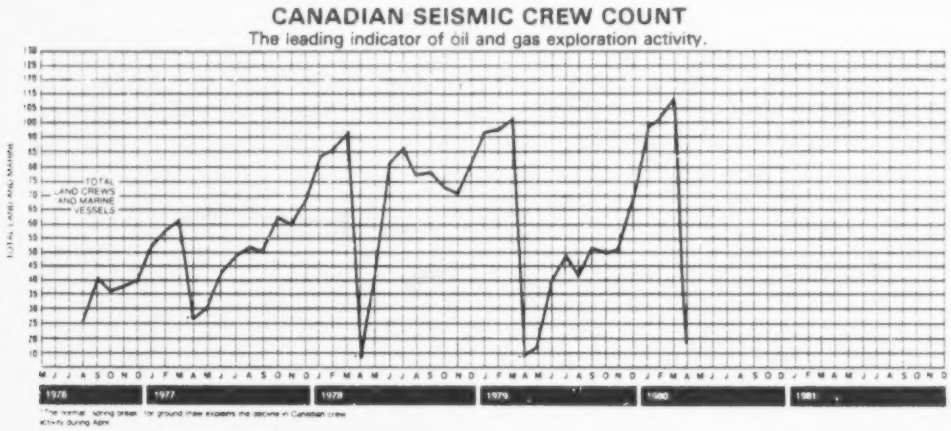
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

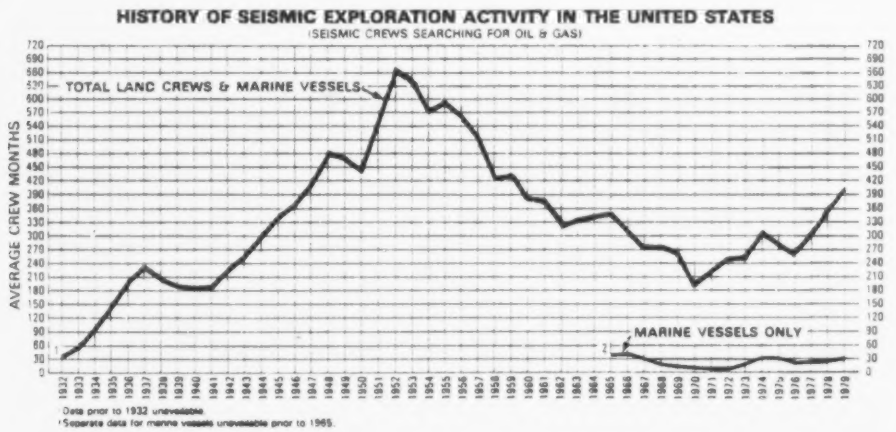
April, 1980 (March figures in parentheses)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
12 Contractors:	15 (111)	0 (0)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	18 (114)	0 (0)

Note: The normal "spring break" for ground thaw explains the decline in Canadian crew activity during April.



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.


HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION ACTIVITY IN THE UNITED STATES
(SEISMIC CREWS SEARCHING FOR OIL & GAS)
TOTAL LAND CREWS & MARINE VESSELS
MARINE VESSELS ONLY
AVERAGE CREW MONTHS

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